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Illustrations, always admirable in their kind, frequently present so perfect a counterpart to the story, that it is difficult to imagine the novelist and the artist to be two separate persons.

21. — *A Voyage down the Amoor : with a Land Journey through Siberia, and Incidental Notices of Manchooria, Kamschatka, and Japan.* By PERRY McDONOUGH COLLINS, United States Commercial Agent at the Amoor River. New York : D. Appleton & Co. 1860. 12mo. pp. 390.

MR. COLLINS shows no great skill in book-making, and an excess, perhaps, of good-natured egotism ; his various fare and fortune as to food and conveyance are dwelt upon with needless prolixity and repetition ; we miss the full and broad views of the commercial capacities of the country which we should have expected from his official relation ; and we were disappointed on finding no map of the Amoor region. Yet the work is valuable as being manifestly accurate so far as it goes, as being the first record of travels — we believe — in that region, since the eyes of our merchants were directed thitherward, and as revealing undoubted capacities and resources, which will open a broad field for trade, adventure, and the surplus activity of the Western World. Already is there among us a large and rapidly growing interest in the Amoor country, though ten years ago few would have known where to find it on the map of Asia ; and the book before us will in part gratify, and in part stimulate, the curiosity of such as feel this interest.

22. — *A Book for Young Men. The Boy Inventor : a Memoir of Matthew Edwards, Mathematical-Instrument Maker.* Boston : Walker, Wise, & Co. 1860. 12mo. pp. 109.

MATTHEW EDWARDS was an English boy, born in penury, who in early childhood attained to a very considerable degree of mechanical knowledge and skill, at thirteen years of age was apprenticed to a mathematical-instrument maker, in Derby, his native town, and for the last six years of his life worked at that trade, as apprentice and on his own account, in Boston, where he died in December last, in his twenty-second year. He was a youth of surpassing intellectual activity and industry, and, in addition to the branches of knowledge connected with his profession, he had made a very considerable proficiency in the Latin language, and in the best English literature. For guidance in

study and reading, as well as for numerous services essential to his well-being and success, he was indebted to Mr. Thomas Bulfinch, than whom he could not have had a more judicious or a kinder friend, and who, in the volume before us, has told the story of his *protégé* in his wonted simple and modest way, tastefully, beautifully, and with literal truth, except that he has suppressed his own name, and not told the half of what he did for the lad. Young Edwards gave great promise of eminence in his calling, and had already attracted the strong interest of scientific men in Boston and Cambridge. He invented an improved method of effecting the horizontal adjustment of mathematical instruments; and also an improved method of darkening metallic surfaces, so as to graduate instruments by white lines on a dark ground, for which a patent was secured, though received too late for him to enjoy its benefits. He conceived the idea of applying the "leucographic" method to the printing of books, believing that this would obviate one chief cause of ophthalmic inflammation and disease, namely, the glare of light to which the eyes are continuously exposed from the white ground on which books are now printed. This biography is eminently "a book for young men," inasmuch as it demonstrates the efficiency of self-help, the elasticity of time, and the power of fixed purpose and energetic will.

23. — *A History of Williams College.* By REV. CALVIN DURFEE.
Boston: A. Williams & Co. 1860. 8vo. pp. 432.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE proffers very strong claims upon the public interest and gratitude. Cradled as it is among the Berkshire mountains, in one of the most charming nooks in New England, its site brings around the students all the intenerating and ennobling influences which Nature can exert on character. A meadow in the vicinity of the College was the birthplace of the American missionary enterprise, which grew from the self-consecration to this work of three or four students who had sought the spot for social prayer. An unusually large proportion of the graduates of this institution have become men of mark, efficiency, and extended influence. This is owing in part to the fact that it is located in a region where it is not fashionable to go through college, but where those only seek a classical education who feel an inward call to some post of intellectual or spiritual usefulness. Much also is due to the close personal intercourse which the Faculty have been enabled to maintain with their pupils, and especially, for the last twenty-four years, to the degree to which the present President has kept